GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:95
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2006
URBAN HERITAGE
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is concerned at the deterioration of urban heritage in the country;

(b) if so, whether the actual causes for the deterioration of urban heritage has been ascertained;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to preserve the Urban Heritage in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a)to(d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 95 FOR 28.7.2006 REGARDING URBAN HERITAGE.

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Yes, Sir.

(c): Rapid urbanization, lack of awareness for heritage value, limited technical conservation expertise, limited capacity with local authorities to implement heritage regulations, lack of partnerships and funds and multiplicity of agencies are factors responsible for the deterioration of urban heritage.

(d): A proposal to constitute a Heritage Sites Commission under the Ministry of Culture is on the anvil to lay down broad policy guidelines and take steps to ensure that such guidelines are observed.

Ministry of Urban Development has recently in December, 2005 launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns. Under both these schemes, preservation of heritage areas is an eligible component for funding.

Some of the State Governments have also enacted regional or city level Urban Heritage Regulations for conserving Urban Heritage.